

THE BULL WALNUT HILL NEWSLETTER

MASSACHUSETTS
RIFLE
ASSOCIATION
290 R.SALEM ST.
WOBURN, MASS
617-933-2138

MARCH 1992

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President's Message

First days at MRA

First days are always tough in a new club and new people, and you are a little apprehensive. You soon realize, however, there is absolutely no need to worry, because the people of the MRA immediately put you at ease with an outpouring of support and a hearty welcome. Other members helped me to get through my first day jitters at MRA - helping people is the spirit of MRA.

The new year also enables me to set some goals of my own. First, I'd like to emphasize the importance of awards. I like to ensure that the integrity of the award program remains intact. Everyone deserves a "job well done" every now and then. Giving an award is the way to do it. That doesn't mean we should recognize every individual in the MRA. Definitely award hard working, deserving individuals with awards, but also use other ways to show your appreciation for outstanding efforts. Another way to reward outstanding performance and achievement is by giving a individual more responsibilities or by personally taking time to thank them for a job well done.

Recognizing and knowing when and how to honor our hard working people will help to keep the integrity of the awards and the programs. It will also tell our people that we appreciate all their hard work and timeless efforts.

Lessons learned in Desert Storm: when a team takes to the field, it's individual specialists come together to achieve a team win. All players try to do their best because every player, the team, and the MRA are counting on them to win. *But they all must believe that they are part of a team, a joint team, that fights together to win.*

In the gulf war, technology played a major role. The outcome resulted above all else from the superb morale and professionalism of people who participated in and supported the effort. Victories are not gained by a single person but by team work and joint planning, and the effort all members of the MRA welded into a team. Again, thank you for your support. I'm looking forward to a great year at the MRA.

Bob Summa

Sad news

We learned with sorrow that our fellow member Greg Sears of Reading passed away at age 39. He enjoyed the club and liked the sport of shooting very much. We will miss him and our condolences goes to his family and friends.

Greg Sears, MRA member #700
120 Middlesex Ave.
Reading, MA 01867

Handloading Caution

Herb Cole

It is possible to throw dangerous overloads or disastrous double charges with any progressive and single stage loader. Six such events have occurred in past three months. Four at MRA and two at Mystic Valley. The guns were .45ACP revolver, .40SW, .44SPl revolver, two .45ACP semiauto, and a 9mm.

A double charge of powder can destroy any pistol or rifle. An overcharge can damage the gun and the drive brass and steel fragments into the shooter's face, hands or arms causing serious injuries.

If you should pause in the stroke of the operation handle or move the shell plate back by hand, you may dump an extra amount of powder into a cartridge case. If this happens, stop and remove all cartridges from the loader. Set them aside and start fresh.

MRA members' rifle shoot

Mary Lou Godleski

All members are invited to shoot in a Rifle Shoot at the club's Fazio Range. Dust up the old .22's and buy some ammo and start brushing up your skills. We want everyone to come and shoot. We have mats, rifles, jackets, and scopes for those who need equipment.

If you need to borrow equipment, need help or just want to do a timed practice, come Thursday evenings 7 to 9 pm and Sunday, March 15, 1992, between 2 to 4 pm. To interest all members, there will be divisions for juniors, seniors, women, beginners, and experienced shooters, and also do iron sights.

The shooting positions will be prone, sitting, knelling, and standing. A shooter may shoot one, two, three, or all positions. A shooter may shoot their favorite position twice. There will be sign-up sheet at the range. Sign up early so we can plan the number of relays.

Mark your calender for a day of good shooting, March 22, 1992, at 10:30 am. For more information contact Mary Lou Godleski, 617-899-6771

Massive Work Party

On Sunday, April 26, 1992 at 9:00 am, there will be a work party planned for maintenance of the clubhouse and grounds. We would like this to be an effort by the entire membership to fulfill their work time for 1992. Needed are carpenters, electricians and laborers for outside work.

Please bring shovel, rakes, push brooms, wheelbarrows, hammers, etc.

Please note all ranges will be closed on this day, so we may be make repairs. If there is any question, please see J.T. Coyne or Bob Rogers, or call the office at 933-2138. Kitchen will feed all workers.

Shooting News

MRA Schedule of Events

Pins: March 2, 2nd Chance style time event.
 March 9, man-on-man, two man team side match.
 March 23, man-on-man, shotgun side match.

Sign up starts at 6:15 pm for all PIN matches.

Plates: March 16, man-on-man, 6:30 pm.
 March 30, timed event, Beginners practice & relays

PPC: March 21, 10:00 am.

Trap: Every Sunday at 10:00 am.
 Every Wednesday at 6:30 pm.

Black Powder Shoot:
 April 4, 1992, 1:00 pm.

Easter Ham Shoot:
 April 5, at 10:00 am.
 Trap, Poker, Plates.

Club Event News

Boston Sportsmen Show:

MRA will have a booth at the Boston Sportsmen Show at Bayside Expo Center, March 5th through 9th.

We need volunteers to man the booth. It is a great opportunity to see the show free and represent your club. See Bob Rogers or Lee Conger. There is a sign up sheet at the office.

Raffle:

Congratulations to the Winners of the two Lady Smith handguns: Sia Afshari (Ticket # 0016) and Mike Slomicht (Ticket # 0108). The drawing was held on February 3, 1992 at the monthly directors' meeting.

2nd Mass Regiment Demonstration:

The 2nd Massachusetts Regiment will be performing a demonstration of 18th century military tactics at MRA on Sunday, March 15, 1992. The 2nd Mass Regiment's program will begin at the archery range with a talk on 18th century uniforms and soldiering at 11:00 am. From the archery Range the reenactment group will march to the Pope range for a demonstration of linear musket firing.

The 2nd Mass Regiment is a nonprofit, educational organization that participates in living history programs and battle reenactments through the eastern U.S. and Canada. A booth will be set up to answer any questions and with information on how to join.

Black Powder League:

Anyone interested in black powder League should come out Saturday, April 4th, at 1:00 pm, at the club. A League will be organized for shooting rifles, cap and flintlock plus pistols.

Now is the chance to shoot your black powder weapon or learn more about the sport. For more information contact Bob Marsh (508-470-3363) or Nate Guyer (603-880-0252).

Swap Meet:

Second annual swap meet will be held on May 3, 1992, at 9:00 am till 5:00 pm, at the club. The club need volunteers to run this event. Also, dealers needed for sporting goods. Anyone can purchase a table at \$25.00 or two for \$40.00. Reserve your space early. Admission \$2.00. For more information contact the office. You may bring in your kitchen knives, hunting knives, hatchets, etc. Len Sawyer will sharpen your knives for \$1.00 each for club benefit.

Bullet Swaging:

There will be a informative seminar about bullet swaging on March 22, 1992 at 10:00 am, at MRA. Don't miss this session. Watch how a 150 gr., 45ACP bullet is made.

WANTED

The club is contemplating on archery program. Spare archery equipment such as bow and arrow are needed. Contact the office.

Jr. Division is always looking for good used rifles. Check your attics and closets, the juniors can use any and all equipment.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

All members must sign the log book and register their guests upon entering the club. Please don't forget. Your club use privileges may be suspended if you don't sign the log book.

All membership dues for 1992 are past due. Please remit as soon as possible to avoid expiration of your membership.

Safety Note

NO smoking on the range. Obey the range rules.